

Shelby County Election Commission

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For Immediate Release

SCEC Completes Precinct Consolidations
Goal Is Higher Level of Service to Voters on Election Days

March 19, 2015 (Memphis, Tenn.) At Wednesday's monthly meeting of the Shelby County Election Commission, precinct consolidations were finalized. This brings the total number of voting precincts from 219 to 171.

"With fewer precincts, we can shift election officials once used to staff smaller precincts, to the newly consolidated ones, which will enable us to allocate more poll workers, where voter traffic is higher," said Richard Holden, administrator of elections.

Input from the public was extremely important in making this project a success, explained Holden. "Their participation at the public meetings was vital to complete the consolidations. We were pleased with their input."

The first of two special meetings to discuss the consolidations, which were split into two groups, was held February 4. The meeting during which the second group of consolidations was discussed was scheduled to be put before the public March 4, but due to weather conditions, that meeting was postponed until March 11.

In addition to running ads about the meetings, information was also distributed to the media, and with the help of Steve Shular, public affairs officer for Mayor Mark Luttrell, to hundreds of community groups and neighborhood associations throughout the county.

The Tennessee average precinct size is 3,400 voters. After finalizing the precinct consolidations, the average size in Shelby County is 3,200.

The list of precinct consolidations is available at www.shelbyvote.com.

Each voter whose polling place has changed will be notified by mail and sent a new voter registration card.

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